MASS MA20.39:Pit/98/1-1

UMASS/AMHERST

312066 0367 7331 2

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

LABOR AREA RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CONTINUES TO CLIMB

The unemployment rate in the Pittsfield Labor Market Area rose from 6.3 percent in December to 6.7 percent in January. This is a slight increase when compared to the state unemployment rate which jumped from 4.4 percent to 6.4 percent during the same period, or the national rate which went from 6.9 percent to a 12-month high for the nation of 8.2 percent in January. These rates given are seasonally unadjusted.

The rise in the local labor market rate of unemployment was due to the drop of 1400 nonagricultural wage and salary jobs between December and January. However, the decline is not unusual for this period and consists namely of cutbacks in personnel in wholesale and retail trade and many sectors of the services industries after the Christmas season.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

During the month of January there was a variety of applicants surplus occupations in the two Division of Employment Security Offices in the labor market area. According to the Employment Service Automated Reporting System (ESARS), the occupations which had the largest number of applicants seeking employment opportunities included machine trades (all-around machinists and operators), nurses aides, office help (secretaries, clerks, bookkeepers and stenographers), welders, sewing machine operators, and material handlers.

Apparently, companies interested in expanding their wholesale or retail cutters, or establishing office facilities, or machine related firms in this labor market area should have little or no trouble locating experienced help.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PITTSFIELD LMA

The General Electric Co. in Pittsfield has been awarded a $26.5 million dollar contract from the U.S. Navy to cover purchase of fire control equipment used in the Navy's fleet ballistic missile program. The contract will help stabilize ongoing business in this division of the General Electric Co.

In 1980, the General Electric plastics sales department was reorganized as a worldwide organization with U.S. and international sales efforts both directed from the plastics world headquarters in Pittsfield. Although the U.S. economic outlook for 1981 is somewhat doubled, plastics enters the year optimistically and expects the economic picture to improve during the last half of the year. Pittsfield area employment is expected to hold at 1980 levels. Overall, 1981 should be a challenging year for the world leaders in engineering plastics, the General Electric Co.

The East Bay Development Corp. of Somerville has recently announced that groundbreaking for a new K-Mart enclosed shopping center which will be held as soon as frost has left the corporation 7.6 acre renewal tract on Main Street, North Adams. Plans are to build a $4.5 million shopping center with the expectation to have the new store open by November. This project should create a number of temporary construction jobs and a considerable number of retail administrative and sales positions.

Williams College officials recently announced that the college's "decade-long capital drive has exceed its $50 million goal by better than $1 million". According to the college, "$34 million has been earmarked for the college's endowment, new professorships, student and academic programs and the maintenance of facilities. Most of the remaining $17 million will be spent to pay for several new buildings and renovations and for a forthcoming major addition" to one of its existing facilities, Lawrence Hall. Among the new additions will be a library in the center of the campus and a new music center.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
LABOR FORCE	69,620	71,360	68,460
Employment	64,960	66,890	63,730
Unemployment	4,660	4,470	4,730
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.7	6.3	6.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	218	1,420	215
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,239	2,056	2,123

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,105	1,893	567	161	2,347
New Applicants (This Month)	980	386	92	36	222

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	JAN 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	383
Openings Received	595

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS *	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL			
Nonmanufacturing - Total			
Construction			
Trans. & public utilities			
Wholesale & retail trade			
Finance, ins. & real estate			
Services & mining			
Government			

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS *	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
Manufacturing - Total			
Durable Goods - Total			
Nondurable Goods - Total			
Paper & paper products			
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS *	JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
Average Weekly Earnings			
Average Weekly Hours			
Average Hourly Earnings			

* Figures will appear in the December issue of "Employment Review" due to Annual Benchmark Revisions.

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

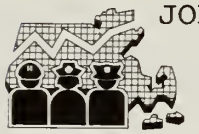
33.360-3-80-152576 Est. Cost Per Copy: $0.039

MASS. MA30.39: Pitt./981-2

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



THE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT CONTINUES TO RISE

The rate of unemployment in the Pittsfield Labor Market Area rose slightly from 6.7 percent in January to 6.9 percent in February. By contrast the unemployment rate for the state remained at 6.4 percent for the same period. The national rate declined from 8.2 percent to 8.0 percent over the month. All rates were reported seasonally unadjusted.

Unemployment rose by 200 over the month due largely to the extreme cold weather which hit the western part of the state in mid-February terminating a considerable amount of outside contract construction work. At the same time, the cold weather enabled the ski business to boom more than usual resulting in an overall increase in employment in the area of close to 800 jobs.

NET HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

In the month of February, Net High Demand Occupations listed with the Division of Employment Security in the Pittsfield Labor Market Area included private duty nurses, nursery school attendents, and factory maintenance helpers. During February there were experienced applicants registered with the Placement Division of the D.E.S., however, job matching in these particular occupations may be difficult at times due to specialized skill requirements, or commuting or wage problems.

LOCAL PLANT RECEIVES DEFENSE CONTRACT

The Clark-Aiken Co. of Lee, Mass. recently received an $879,000 contract from the Northrop Corp. to produce structural parts to be used on the Navy's new F-18A Hornet strike fighter. As of November 1980 a company spokesman stated that "about 40 percent of the workforce was engaged in production of the F-18A parts but that if Clark-Aiken wins future contracts from Northrop the project could make up 70 percent of the firm's business over the next five years". This is conceivable since the government is expected to build 1,366 of these Hornet strike fighters during the 1980's at a reported cost of $30 billion.

MIFA HELPS PURCHASE AND EXPANSION OF LOCAL FIRM

The Poly-Therm Co. Inc. of Schenectady, N.Y. has been approved for a $700,000 low-interest loan through the Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA). The money is earmarked for the purchase of Insul-Therm Inc., a manufacturer of insulated glass windows in Lee, Mass. Under its new management, the company could provide an additional 30 to 35 jobs for the residents of Lee and adjoining towns, according to MIFA.

THREE NEW PUBLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

1. Defense Spending and Massachusetts Employment 1969-1979. Included in this report are both national and state data on defense spending and those industries which have benefited from defense procurement. The town of Pittsfield (General Electric Co.) received $37.7 million in contract awards in 1979, an increase of 23 percent from the 1978 level of $30.6 million. 2. High Technology Employment in Massachusetts and Selected States. The purpose of this study is to evaluate Massachusetts' position in relation to other industrial states, in particular those states that might present alternative sites for the rapidly growing high-technology industry. This analysis is based on a comparison of employment and wages in the high-technology industry, all manufacturing industry, and total employment. 3. Health Service Industries and Employment in Massachusetts. This report emphasized the importance of the Health Service Industry in the state and the nation. Special attention is given to the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA. The report contains an analysis of supply and demand of health service workers.

Copies of these reports can be obtained by writing to the address stipulated on Page 2.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
LABOR FORCE	70,600	69,620	68,050
Employment	65,750	64,960	63,670
Unemployment	4,850	4,660	4,380
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.9	6.7	6.4
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	285	218	351
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,230	2,239	2,229

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,111	1,923	575	147	2,247
New Applicants (This Month)	777	324	103	7	153

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	FEB 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	274
Openings Received	832

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.6	53.4	54.1
Nonmanufacturing - Total	35.7	35.5	35.8
Construction	1.0	1.1	0.9
Trans. & public utilities	1.6	1.6	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	11.6	11.8	11.7
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.3	2.3
Services & mining	10.8	10.5	10.4
Government	8.4	8.2	8.9

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
Manufacturing - Total	17.9	17.9	18.3
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Nondurable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Paper & paper products	2.2	2.2	2.3
Other nondurable goods	INA	INA	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	INA
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for Information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

MASS. MA20.39: P.H./981-3

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DOWN

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield Labor Market edged down slightly from 6.9 percent in February to 6.7 percent in March. The March rate for the area remained higher than that of the state which reported 6.2 percent for the month, but considerably lower than that of the nation which registered 7.7 percent for the same period. All rates were posted seasonally unadjusted.

The slight improvement in employment over the month occurred in the non-manufacturing sector as companies increased personnel to accommodate seasonal requirements.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

During the month of March, applicant surplus occupations in Job Matching Service offices in the Pittsfield Labor Market Area included machinists (all around), automobile mechanics, auto body repair workers, truck drivers (heavy and light equipment), registered nurses, office help (secretary, clerical, and administrative).

MIFA HELPS FIRMS EXPAND IN LABOR MARKET AREA

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to stimulate increased employment by offering important financing incentives to companies that wish to expand in the Commonwealth. These incentives include tax-exempt financing and industrial or commercial mortgage insurance. Recently, Country Curtains, Inc. received approval from MIFA for a $1,700,000 tax-exempt bond to expand its production facilities in South Lee, Massachusetts. The loan is to be used for construction and purchase of equipment. Their workforce is expected to increase by 20 workers.

The Studley Press, which prints everything from bill forms, to books, to fine reproductions for the Metropolitan Museum of Art, is also expanding with the help of MIFA. The state agency has recently approved a low-interest, tax free bond for the Dalton printing concern, which will get a $253,250 loan to build a 4000-square-foot addition and purchase a third offset press. The expansion, which will get under way in April, will double the manufacturing space of the plant and eventually create ten new jobs.

PASS PROGRAM TO HELP SMALL BUSINESSES

To improve potential opportunities for government contracts and subcontracts for small businesses, the Small Business Administration (SBA) has developed its Procurement Automated Source System (PASS). Using the latest computer technology, PASS is designed to boost the number of government contracts awarded to small firms. PASS permits small firms to register their capabilities and have them matched with the needs of the procuring agencies. Small businesses which manufacture textiles, clothing, electronics, production equipment, medical, dental and ophthalmic goods and which are in "labor surplus areas" may wish to register with PASS in order to increase the probability of receiving defense procurement contracts.

The municipalities in this area currently classified as labor surplus areas are Adams, Alford, Florida, New Ashford, New Marlborough, North Adams, Savoy, Tyringham and Windsor. A new listing will be published as of June 1, 1981.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
LABOR FORCE	69,690	70,600	69.660
Employment	65,050	65,750	65,620
Unemployment	4,640	4,850	4,040
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.7	6.9	5.8
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	166	285	176
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,085	2,230	2,197

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,322	2,026	541	140	2,284
New Applicants (This Month)	926	396	85	30	286

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	MAR 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	316
Openings Received	1,021

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.4	53.6	53.6
Nonmanufacturing - Total	35.6	35.7	35.5
Construction	0.9	1.0	0.9
Trans. & public utilities	1.6	1.6	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	11.6	11.6	11.6
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.3	2.3
Services & mining	10.7	10.8	10.4
Government	8.5	8.4	8.7

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
Manufacturing - Total	17.8	17.9	18.1
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Nondurable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Paper & paper products	2.2	2.2	2.3
Other nondurable goods	INA	INA	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	INA
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

Mass. MA 20.39: P, H/981-4

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DECLINES

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) declined significantly from 6.7 percent in March to 5.6 percent in April. The number of unemployed fell from 4640 to 3780, a reduction of 860. Although the nonagricultural employment total, which is the number of persons working in establishments in the area, was unchanged over the month, the working total on a place of residency basis (i.e. those who live in the labor market area but work anywhere) fell off by 1640, according to the federal Current Population Survey as adjusted on a labor area basis. A drop of the magnitude of 2500 in the labor force (employment plus unemployment) is unusual, however, and probably mirrors a statistical aberration, although there may have been some withdrawing from the labor force or out-migration from the area as contributing factors. On an industry basis, although there was no net change, there was some movement reflecting seasonal and other current factors. Thus, construction went up by 200 and trade by 100, while government work rolls were cut by 100.

Over the year, the unemployment rate dropped slightly from 6.0 percent in April 1980 to the present 5.6 percent. The labor force dropped by 980 from last April with employment off by 760 persons and unemployment down 220 persons. The nonagricultural employment figures show a similar over-the-year picture, receding from 54,600 in April 1980 down to 53,400 at present. However, with the number unemployed falling proportionately less than the ranks of the employed, the unemployment rate edged down.

NET HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

During the month of April, net high demand occupations in the Pittsfield Labor Market Area were general duty nurse, house manager and laundry laborer. These occupations were listed with the local offices, in the L.M.A., of the Division of Employment Security. Although there were experienced applicants listed and registered at the Placement Division of the D.E.S. at both local offices, Pittsfield and North Adams, there evidently was a problem matching the job with the applicant, which could be specialized skill requirements, commuting or even wage problems.

MCRC HELPS PITTSFIELD LMA FIRMS

The Massachusetts Capital Resources Company has made its first Pittsfield loan to the Optical Publishing Co. for $100,000. This is a low-cost loan funded by home-based life insurance companies in Massachusetts to aid the state's economy. This will assist the company to enlarge its sales efforts out to the west coast and capture a larger share of the growing electro-optical market there. The loan will create 16 new jobs at the company over the next five years.

NEW MANUFACTURER FOR PITTSFIELD LMA

Deacon Machinery, Inc. of the United Kingdom, has announced plans to establish a plant to manufacture injection molding machinery in North Adams. This development occurred through the cooperation of local city officials, the Massachusetts Foreign Business Council and the Deacon Company, which received local approval for a $2,100,000 Industrial Revenue Bond to finance equipment and plant. The Deacon Company, when it fully operates, will employ 100 persons. The E.D. Jones Division of the Beloit Corp. of Dalton sold its plastic machinery products line to Deacon Company and will concentrate solely on production of paper machinery. Deacon Machinery, Inc. will be in a new plant, first built for Mohawk Industries who had to reduce operations due to the energy crisis. Deacon Company will make use of this plant, which would otherwise sit idle.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
LABOR FORCE	67,190	69,690	68,270
Employment	63,410	65,050	64,170
Unemployment	3,780	4,640	4,100
Unemployment Rate 3/	5.6	6.7	6.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	232	122	246
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,680	2,085	2,275

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,619	2,106	547	150	2,457
New Applicants (This Month)	987	415	82	29	355

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	APR 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	229
Openings Received	1,272

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.4	53.4	54.6
Nonmanufacturing - Total	35.6	35.6	36.3
Construction	1.1	0.9	1.1
Trans. & public utilities	1.6	1.6	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	11.7	11.6	12.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.3	2.3
Services & mining	10.5	10.7	10.5
Government	8.4	8.5	8.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
Manufacturing - Total	17.8	17.8	18.3
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Nondurable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Paper & paper products	2.3	2.2	2.3
Other nondurable goods	INA	INA	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	INA
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

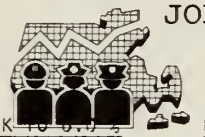
job market research

Mass, MA.20:39:Pitt./1981/-5

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



PITTSFIELD LMA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CLIMBS BACK TO 6.0 %

Thie Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) unemployment rate increased from 5.6 percent in April to 6.0 percent in May. While employment increased slightly from 63,410 in April to 63,900 in May, a gain of 490 persons, unemployment also increased from 3,780 in April to 4,040 in May for an offsetting loss of 260 persons. This month usually shows the start of the seasonal pattern of new and reentries into the labor force. The new entries are the students seeking full or part-time summer work. Some re-entrants are seasonal farm help who come back every summer to help at farm activities. Since school is closed, there are administrative staff, cafeteria personnel, bus drivers and crossing guards who are through and, if eligible, filed for unemployment compensation. There is still to come the results from Proposition 2½ which is a wait and see situation under which teachers with no contracts could file for unemployment and increase these figures.

Nonagricultural employment increased over the month from 53,700 (a revised figure for April) up to 54,300 in May. (April's figure was revised by 300 to reflect an increase in the services and mining category). All of the increases (600) from April to May occurred in nonmanufacturing with the expected seasonal increases in construction (200), wholesale and retail trade (100) and services (400).

Over the year, the unemployment rate went down from 6.2 percent in May 1980 to 6.0 percent in May 1981. One thousand persons have left the labor force in the Pittsfield LMA since last May, of which employment dropped by 790 and unemployment by 210.

Nonagricultural employment decreased by 700 from 55,000 last May 1980, of which 400 occurred in manufacturing and the balance of 300 in nonmanufacturing, which saw services increase by 500 but wholesale and retail trade diminish by 400, government also decreased by 300, and finally, construction go down 100. The census population figures reflect a decreasing population which as resulted from migration, particularly of young people, going to other places for opportunity. General Electric's situation has been stable but their part in the Trident project is finished and the projection from the LMA's largest employer is for future layoffs. This paints a fading picture particularly to young people seeking jobs.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

The Beloit Corp. broke ground for a $2,500,000 research and development center which will be a 37,000 square foot facility adjacent to Beloit's E.D. Jones Division. The research facility will be used to develop new products in its paper machinery operation thereby increasing sales through new products that will be marketed throughout the world.

The Chase Enterprises of Hartford, Conn. has been signed as developer of Parcel 3 which will be used as a new downtown mall to enhance downtown Pittsfield. Chase will draw up detailed plans of design, Parcel 3 mall tenants, relocation of existing businesses, traffic and parking. Parcel 3 is considered to be a prime location in downtown Pittsfield.

The Berkshire School has launched a $5,000,000 to $6,000,000 expansion. The first step is a $2,000,000 athletic facility of 32,000 square feet to house basketball, tennis and volleyball courts; locker room facilities, and administrative offices. The present gymnasium will become a library and the present library will become a classroom and dormitory space. A future development will be a swimming pool and squash courts when other steps have been completed. The new facility is expected to be ready in the winter of 1980.

Alnasco, Inc. is planning to construct a new building for multiple or single usage which will cover 5,000 square feet for industrial or warehouse usage.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
LABOR FORCE	67,940	67,190	68,710
Employment	63,900	63,410	64,460
Unemployment	4,040	3,780	4,250
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.0	5.6	6.2
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	171	232	242
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,345	1,680	1,822

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,627	2,091	617	147	2,457
New Applicants (This Month)	999	412	129	26	296

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	MAY 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	000
Openings Received	1,740

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	54.3	53.7 R/	55.0
Nonmanufacturing - Total	36.5	35.9	36.8
Construction	1.3	1.1	1.4
Trans. & public utilities	1.6	1.6	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	11.8	11.7	12.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.4	2.4 R/	2.4
Services & mining	11.1	10.7 R/	10.6
Government	8.3	8.4	8.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
Manufacturing - Total	17.8	17.8	18.2
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Nondurable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Paper & paper products	2.2	2.3	2.3
Other nondurable goods	INA	INS	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	INA
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S. MAIL

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

job market research

MASS MA20 39 Pitt./981/6

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE SLIGHTLY INCREASES

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) has increased slightly from 6.0 percent in May to 6.3 percent in June. The labor force increased by 2,350 over the month which reflects increases in both employment and unemployment. Employment rose from 63,900 in May up to 65,880 in June for a 1,980 gain, showing the seasonal pattern which results from improved weather for outside activities and student entry into the labor force for full and part-time work. Unemployment increased for the second straight month in a row; it went up from 4,040 in May to 4,410 in June, also reflecting the seasonal pattern as school closed and the influx of new entrants and reentrants into the labor force who have not found jobs. The labor force for the LMA increasing by 810 over the year, there was a gain and also a reduction in unemployment of 1,620 from 5,030 of last May.

The nonagricultural employment increased by 900 positions going from 54,300 in May up to 55,200 in June. Manufacturing had an increase of 300 jobs and nonmanufacturing had the balance of 600 jobs. The nonmanufacturing total went from 36,500 in May up to 37,100 in June, again reflecting the seasonal outlook, where the services category led with a 500 person increase and both construction and wholesale and retail trade increasing by 100. This is the start of the tourist and recreational season, highlighted by the opening of Tanglewood at the end of the month. The offset in nonmanufacturing was in government that decreased by 100, which were all state and local government losses.

Nonagricultural employment decreased over the year by 300 from last May's figure of 55,500. There was a loss of 100 in manufacturing and a loss of 200 in nonmanufacturing which has a particular interesting gain and loss categories.

Wholesale and retail trade, government and construction had losses of 400, 300 and 200, respectively. Interestingly enough, services had a good gain of 600 workers and transportation, communication and public utilities had a gain of 100. It would seem that if the services category increases that the wholesale and retail category would also increase, but this did not occur.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN PITTSFIELD

General Electric has laid off 160 workers on June 19 from its troubled power transformer division. The company had first predicted in a business forecast in early 1981 a reduction of 300 workers over the year, with a later correction up to 600 workers. The reduction in the demand of electricity had caused a loss in the demand of power transformers. Some transfers as well as bumping procedures will keep some people in but the overall trend of the transformer division is down until this industry rebounds. The ordance division has held its own and recently was awarded a $14,200,000 contract for the Mark 73 guided-missile directors which are to be reworked and upgraded.

The Community Development Corp. (CDC) of North Adams has awarded a $50,000 loan to Butkin Precision Manufacturing Corp. to purchase new equipment for production growth which means increasing the number of employees from 23 to 40 or 45.

Prime Tanning Corp., Inc. of Barwich, Maine is proposing to buy the Blackinton Mill and Berkshire Tanning Corp. of North Adams for $10 million which the company will develop production creating 150 new jobs plus the existing 100 workers.

Cecile Industries of North Adams has received a $15.8 million contract to manufacture sleeping bags. The present plant employs 110 persons and the contract award will bring 40 more employees. The contract was awarded by the Defense Logistics Agency, purchaser for the Defense Department.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
LABOR FORCE	70,290	67,940	69,480
Employment	65,880	63,900	64,450
Unemployment	4,410	4,040	5,030
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.3	6.0	7.2
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	483	188	352
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,036	986	1,463

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,859	2,244	690	163	2,485
New Applicants (This Month)	985	472	124	35	237

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	JUNE '81
Unfilled Openings 2/	256
Openings Received	2,027

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	55.2	54.3	55.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	37.1	36.5	37.3
Construction	1.4	1.3	1.6
Trans. & public utilities	1.6	1.6	1.5
Wholesale & retail trade	11.9	11.8	12.3
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.4	2.4	2.4
Services & mining	11.6	11.1	11.0
Government	8.2	8.3	8.5

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
Manufacturing - Total	18.1	17.8	18.2
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Nondurable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Paper & paper products	2.3	2.2	2.3
Other nondurable goods	INA	INA	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	INA
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for Information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

MASS. MA 20.39: Pitt./981/7

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

PITTSFIELD LMA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE GOES UP

The unemployment rate for this LMA has gone from 6.3 percent in June to 6.5 percent in July while employment continued to climb due to seasonal work, unempoyment also showed an increase as a result of increased claimants from unpaid vacations, layoffs, and holiday absences and the results of Proposition 2½. The unemployment rate for the fourth straight month went from 5.6 percent in April to the present 6.5 percent denoting that unemployment climbed by 930 persons from 3,780 in April to 4,710 in July, which reflects the General Electric employment cuts and mainly Proposition 2½'s effect on government payrolls, which were reduced by 500 persons. The seasonal change has produced new jobs but the Proposition 2½ and the national economy have left their mark on the local economy.

Over the month, nonagricultural employment totals remained the same at 55,200. Manufacturing showed a decrease due to the holiday and vacation pattern in July. The nonmanufacturing work rolls increased from 37,100 in June to 37,400 in July. The service category increased significantly by 1,000 jobs followed by construction, and finance, insurance and real estate, both with an increase of 100 persons. As expected government declined by 300 persons. Wholesale and retail trade declined by 400 persons and transportation, communication and public utilities dropped by 200 workers.

Over the year, the unemployment rate increased from last July's 6.1 percent to the current month's 6.5 percent. Both employment and unemployment declined; therefore, the labor force dropped. A look at nonagricultural employment totals shows a drop from 56,300 in July 1980 to 55,200 this July for a 1,100 worker loss. The manufacturing sector had a 200 person cutback and the nonmanufacturing sector had the remaining 900 loss. While services exhibited growth of 1,100 workers over the year, wholesale and retail trade declined by 500 workers and government had a significantly large loss of 1,400 civil servants, which is solely shown in the state and local government division, which felt the effects of Proposition 2½, taxes, budgets and population changes.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

ESARS Table 6 reveals that there are 2,360 new applicants for July compared to 985 for June, which is more than twice as much. The majority characteristics of these new applicants are female and disadvantaged, which may reflect, in part, Proposition 2½ and factory workers on unpaid vacations and layoffs. The number of job openings received have increased significantly from 2,207 in June up to 2,948 in July. The unfilled openings at the end of the July period were 333 compared to 255 at the end of June. The increase of openings received and filled were in public administration and government as summer jobs and part-time help. These are seasonal in nature, as distinct from full-time and permanent status.

ESARS Table 96 shows professional, technical and managerial occupations with the largest number of applicants being 156 teachers with only one job opening. In the clerical and sales group, there are plenty of secretaries, typists and clerks (all kinds) and also teacher's aides. In the service group, there are many applicants for kitchen helper, janitor and children attendants. Automobile mechanics and repairers are the largest applicant group in machine trades. In structural work, construction workers are in good numbers followed by building maintenance repairer applicants. Material handlers has the largest overall number of applicants with 221 and only two job openings. Driver applicants (all kinds) continue to be available but very few job openings.

These occupations in ESARS Table 96 have large numbers of applicants and applicant to openings ratios reflecting the job situation and the present economy and effects of Proposition 2½.

Growing companies or companies locating in the Pittsfield LMA have a large labor surplus as outlined above in certain categories.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
LABOR FORCE	71,990	70,290	73,270
Employment	67,280	65,880	68,770
Unemployment	4,680	4,410	4,500
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.5	6.3	6.1
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	262	152	313
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,952	1,318	1,954

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,733	2,273	663	147	2,339
New Applicants (This Month)	2,360	670	94	40	400

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	JULY '91
Unfilled Openings 2/	333
Openings Received	2,948

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	55.2	55.2	56.3
Nonmanufacturing - Total	37.4	37.1	38.3
Construction	1.5	1.4	1.6
Trans. & public utilities	1.4	1.6	1.5
Wholesale & retail trade	11.5	11.9	12.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.5	2.4	2.4
Services & mining	12.6	11.6	11.5
Government	7.9	8.2	9.3

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
Manufacturing - Total	17.8	18.1	18.0
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Nondurable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Paper & paper products	2.1	2.3	2.3
Other nondurable goods	INA	INA	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	INA
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

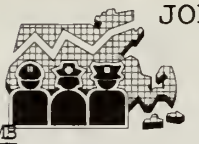
U.S.MAIL

job market research

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



PITTSFIELD LMA UNEMPLOYMENT CONTINUES TO CLIMB

The unemployment rate for the LMA has gone up from 6.5 percent in July to 7.3 percent in August which represents the fifth consecutive monthly increase. This reflects the effects of the national and state economics on the local LMA.

Over the year, the unemployment rate increased from 5.9 percent last August to the present month's 7.3 percent. Nonagricultural employment declined from 56,100 in August 1980 to 54,900 this August for a decline of 1,200 workers, which are reflected in losses of 500 workers in wholesale and retail trade and 1,200 state and local civic servants. The bright note over the year was the 800 worker gain in the service industry. This can be seen in contrast to the overall employment figures which over the year decreased from 68,620 in August 1980 to 67,460 in August 1981 for a 1,160 loss, while unemployment rose from 4,270 to 5,340 for a 1,070 increase in the same time period. This means labor force remained about the same while offsetting changes occurred in employment and unemployment for an unemployment rate at 7.3 percent.

The nonagricultural employment (payroll data) has remained about the same, slipping from 55,200 in July to 54,900 in August with a subtraction from the August figure for a labor dispute of 400 workers, for a total of 55,300 workers. The insured claims data actually went down from 2,100 in July to 2,000 in August. This means that the overall unemployed (both insured and uninsured) increased from 4,710 in July to 5,340 in August. This represents the national and state economic condition which has a persistent and increasing unemployment rate up to the 7.0 percent level for the last several months. These figures are based on the current population census data and methods while the nonagricultural data and insured unemployment are based on payroll.

NET HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

In the month of August, net high demand occupations listed with the Division of Employment Security in the Pittsfield Labor Market Area included chemical engineers, safety deposit supervisors, mail clerks, audit clerks, information clerks, telephone solicitors, counter or lunchroom waiters/waitresses, extruding machine operators, tapers, and machine packagers. Although there are several experienced applicants with some skills registered at the placement division of DES, there are job matching difficulties in some of the above occupations, which could be specialized skill requirements, or commuting or even wage problems.

LABOR DISPUTE AND BMC DEVELOPMENTS

A work stoppage on July 28, 1981 has occurred at the Berkshire Medical Center which involves between 350 to 440 nurses who are seeking better pay and work conditions. This has put a pause on health service but the adjoining medical facilities have compensated adequately. Nurses have maintained the renal-dialysis unit at BMC during the stoppage, since it is the only service of that kind in the area, and also nurses have kept the emergency department open to respond to local needs.

Other developments at Berkshire Medical Center (BMC) were accreditation by the Massachusetts Nurses Association (MNA) for continuing education programs which will credit hours for BMC to relicense registered nurses.

The BMC was granted a grant for a computer to save energy by monitoring current usage. The computer covers the installations for heat usage and regulates to proper conditions. This is one of 24 installations assisted by the Massachusetts Energy Council.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	August 1981	July 1981	August 1980
LABOR FORCE	72,800	71,990	72,890
Employment	67,460	67,280	68,620
Unemployment	5,340	4,710	4,270
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.3	6.5	5.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	182	262	125
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,864	1,952	1,789

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,393	2,167	651	140	2,253
New Applicants (This Month)	574	276	93	14	170

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	August 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	349
Openings Received	3,268

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	August 1981	July 1981	August 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	54.9	55.2	56.1
Nonmanufacturing - Total	37.4	37.4	38.4
Construction	1.5	1.5	1.6
Trans. & public utilities	1.5	1.4	1.5
Wholesale & retail trade	11.7	11.5	12.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.4	2.5	2.4
Services & mining	12.4*	12.6	11.6
Government	7.9	7.9	9.1

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	August 1981	July 1981	August 1980
Manufacturing - Total	17.5	17.8	17.7
Durable Goods - Total	--	--	--
Nondurable Goods - Total	--	--	--
Paper & paper products	2.1	2.1	2.1
Other nondurable goods	--	--	--

* - Labor Dispute

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

PITTSFIELD LMA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS STEADY

The Pittsfield LMA's September unemployment rate remained the same over the month at 7.3 percent, despite a drop in employment from 67,460 in August to 63,730 in September which was due to seasonal factors. Unemployment did not go up or reflect this loss; in fact, it went down from 5,340 in August to 5,000 in September. This resulted in a reduced labor force, as those previously employed left the labor force to return to school or their households, or did not apply for benefits. This does not mean that the estimating methodology will not count them or will exclude them. In some cases they will be delayed or late fillers for unemployment benefits.

The services industry division had built up over the summer months, which had good weather and the tourist attractions such as Tanglewood, growing from 11,100 workers in May to the 12,800 level in August. Now, as the season ends, services have shown a large loss from 12,800 in August to 11,200 in September. (Both the August and September figures include the basic listed workers and the 400 plus workers idled on a labor dispute at the Berkshire Medical Center.) Most of the loss is in the hotels and other personal sectors which serve the general public during the season with their activities. Other employment losses showing the usual seasonal effects, with 100 worker losses in each of these industries, were construction; finance, insurance and real estate; and also government, which had been showing continuous losses from Proposition 2½, but is now showing the end of summer and part-time workers who are also included in the overall totals.

Manufacturing, which is not seasonally oriented, showed a 100 job gain over the month. Within the nondurable goods sector, paper and paper products showed a 100 worker gain. The result of the above activities was a decline in the nonagricultural wage and salary employment from 55,300 in August down to 53,500 in September for a 1,800 worker loss.

The Pittsfield LMA's unemployment rate increased over the year from 5.9 percent in September 1980 to the present 7.3 percent this month. Employment dropped by 1,620 persons from last September's 65,350 and unemployment increased by 930 persons from last September's 4,070, which means a reduced labor force and more on the unemployment rolls.

Over the year, nonagricultural employment dropped from 54,500 in September 1980 to 53,500 in the current month for a 1,000 worker loss. Most of the loss occurred in nonmanufacturing of which an 800 person loss took place in wholesale and retail trade and a loss of 500 occurred in government, which was mainly on the state and local level. The only bright note again was services that grew from the 10,600 of last September to the 11,200 of this September. Manufacturing over the year had a 200 worker loss which may be attributable in part to the General Electric situation.

MASSACHUSETTS INDUSTRIAL FINANCE AGENCY (MIFA)

The MIFA has approved of three projects for expansion in the Pittsfield LMA. A $650,000 bond to the Boyd Converting Co., Inc. of Lee for constructing a 25,000 square foot plant and equipment for this specialty paper products firm, which will result in 25 new jobs; a $400,000 bond to the Coca Cola Bottling Co. of Northampton for purchasing a 100,000 square foot plant and equipment for the bottling firm, which will result in 3 new jobs; a $150,000 bond to the Auto Parts Wholesale Inc. for the purchasing of a 90,000 square foot building and equipment for the storage and sale of automotive parts, which will result in 8 new jobs. The total for the three projects is $1,200,000 which will result in 36 new jobs in the LMA.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Sep. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sep. 1980
LABOR FORCE	68,730	72,800	69,420
Employment	63,730	67,460	65,350
Unemployment	5,000	5,340	4,070
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.3	7.3	5.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	362	182	130
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,602	1,864	1,380

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,230	2,132	606	119	2,171
New Applicants (This Month)	685	339	82	15	191

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Sep. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	138
Openings Received	3,531

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Sep. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sep. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.1	54.9	54.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	35.5	37.4	36.7
Construction	1.4	1.5	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.6	1.5	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	11.6	11.7	12.4
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.4	2.3
Services & mining	10.8*	12.4*	10.6
Government	7.8	7.9	8.3

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Sep. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sep. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	17.6	17.5	17.8
Durable Goods - Total	--	--	--
Nondurable Goods - Total	--	--	--
Paper & paper products	2.2	2.1	2.2
Other nondurable goods	--	--	--

* Labor Dispute - 440 workers

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	DNA	DNA	DNA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for Information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

job market research

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

PITTSFIELD LMA UNEMPLOYMENT INCHES UPWARD

The unemployment rate for this LMA went from 7.3 percent in September up to 7.4 percent in October, which, in relative terms, means a steady rate. Also, the LMA's rate for the last three months has averaged 7.3 percent. The unemployment rate has gone up from 6.0 percent in May and remained over the 6.0 percent level for the last six months to average 6.8 percent during this period.

Despite the fact that employment by place of residence increased by 520 persons over the months from 63,900 in September up to 64,420 in October, the unemployment level also increased from 5,000 in September up to 5,120 in October.

A look at the Pittsfield MSA's nonagricultural wage and salary employment data reveals the interesting aspect that the number of workers employed in area establishments decreased over the month from 53,500 in September down to 52,400 in October for a 1,100 worker loss.

Another interesting statistic is that continued weeks claims data also decreased from 1,602 in September down to 1,546 in October.

The meaning of these apparently contradictory movements is that nonagricultural employment and insured unemployed data are based on payrolls whereas the overall employment and unemployment estimates by place of residence are based on the state CPS data, which is then proportioned on a census consistancy basis to each LMA and every city and town in the Commonwealth. Therefore, the national and state economic trends which have seen an increasing unemployment rate, (which reached 8.0 percent in October) is reflected in the local labor force data.

MIFA HELPS LOCAL FIRM TO EXPAND

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) has approved a $200,000 low interest, tax exempt bond to the Ski American Enterprises, Inc. of Pittsfield, which will purchase 5.7 acres of land and renovate a building to store publications. This will result in 18 new jobs.

LABOR DISPUTE SETTLED

A work stoppage that started on July 28, 1981 at the Berkshire Medical Center which involved 440 nurses has been settled by a contract for better pay and working conditions. This returns the BMC into a full-time medical facility in all departments. The Emergency Department and the Renal Dialysis Unit had been in operation during the labor dispute.

PRESS RELEASES

We would appreciate being added to companies' mailing lists for press releases that would have any bearing on the number of Massachusetts workers; for example, mass recruitment, plant expansion, plant consolidation, and layoffs. Please address such releases to the address on the reverse side .

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

The following municipalities in the Pittsfield LMA have been classified as Labor Surplus Areas as of September 1, 1981: Adams, Alford, Florida, New Ashford, New Marlborough, North Adams, Savoy, and Tyringham. Employers in these areas are eligible for preference in bidding on federal procurement contracts. Information can be obtained from business service centers of the General Services Administration, John W. McCormack Post Office Court House, Boston, Mass. 02109. The purpose of the labor surplus area procurement preference is to help businesses in areas of severe economic need and high unemployment get a part of the government's funds for procurement. Area eligibility remains in effect through May 31, 1982.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Oct. 1981	Sep. 1981	Oct. 1980
LABOR FORCE	69,540	68,900	71,270
Employment	64,420	63,900	67,220
Unemployment	5,120	5,000	4,050
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.4	7.3	5.7
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	181	362	149
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,546	1,602	1,408

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants					
New Applicants ..... (This Month)	Information Not Available				

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Oct. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	
Openings Received	
Information Not Available	

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1981	Sep. 1981	Oct. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	52.0	53.1	55.0
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.7	35.5	37.1
Construction	1.4	1.4	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.7	1.6	1.7
Wholesale & retail trade	11.2	11.6	12.3
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.3	2.3
Services & mining	10.4	10.8	11.0
Government	7.7	7.8	8.3

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1981	Sep. 1981	Oct. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	17.3	17.6	17.9
Durable Goods - Total	--	--	--
Nondurable Goods - Total	--	--	--
Paper & paper products	2.2	2.2	2.2
Other nondurable goods	--	--	--

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	Information Not Available		

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

Mass. MA20.39: Pitt./981/11

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

PITTSFIELD LMA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DOWN

The Pittsfield LMA unemployment rate went from 7.4 percent in October down to 6.8 percent in November. Employment increased from 64,420 in October to the present month's total of 64,730, while unemployment went down in almost the same proportion from 5,120 in October to 4,730 in November. The employment build-up at this time is for the holiday season when services gear for the sales boom during this period. Many services related to the ski industry started employing people. Also most of the resorts now have snow making equipment to give an early season start.

Over the year, Pittsfield's unemployment rate jumped dramatically from 4.9 percent last November up to the present 6.8 percent, following the pattern of the state unemployment rate.

The unemployment rate seems to reflect the changes in the national and state economies reflected in the census CPS method and, therefore in the state's consistency method. The nonagricultural employment and claims data are based on payrolls. While both had increases in employment and unemployment they are minimized or projected differently in the census data for the national and state picture. In effect, this is due to the census method of handling unemployed entry and reentry data. While initial claims and continued weeks had slight increases over the month overall the number unemployed decreased.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT INCREASES SLIGHTLY

Nonagricultural totals increased slightly from 52,000 in October up to 52,200 in November. Both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors increased by 100 workers. The service industry, as previously mentioned, increased by 200 workers while construction reflected seasonal effects on its industry and went down by 100 workers.

Over the year, nonfarm employment decreased from the 54,700 of last November to the present 52,200 for this November. Manufacturing went down by 500 workers reflecting the General Electric picture and the nonelectrical machinery industry. The nonmanufacturing sector had a 2,000 worker loss from last November's employment of 36,800 to this November's figure of 34,800. One half of the loss was in wholesale and retail trade with 1,000 fewer workers. The other large portion of the overall loss was in government that declined from 8,400 in November 1980 to this November's employment level of 7,700, most of which occurred in local government that went down 500 workers as a result of smaller budgets and Proposition 2½, and the federal government had a 200 workers loss, again reflecting budgets.

GENERAL ELECTRIC

The work force of General Electric has remained near the 8,000 person level despite layoffs due to the delayed defense contracts situation. The last two months, October and November, have seen no new contracts for them, which reflects the capital's budget process. No new appropriations have come forth, but now the Congress has begun making new commitments and appropriations. New contracts, and funds could be coming forth hopefully, to give General Electric the spark, and, therefore, the needed spurt in the Pittsfield LMA. Congress, with no appropriations in October and November, saved money, and in fact, cut the budget.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
LABOR FORCE	69,460	69,540	70,230
Employment	64,730	64,420	66,800
Unemployment	4,730	5,120	3,430
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.8	7.4	4.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	297	181	240
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,720	1,546	1,606

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	4,197	2,030	629	111	1,985
New Applicants (This Month)	437	182	52	5	101

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Nov. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	189
Openings Received	230

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	52.2	52.0	54.7
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.8	34.7	36.8
Construction	1.3	1.4	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.7	1.7	1.7
Wholesale & retail trade	11.2	11.2	12.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.3	2.3
Services & mining	10.6	10.4	10.7
Government	7.7	7.7	8.4

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	17.4	17.3	17.9
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Nondurable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Paper & paper products	2.2	2.2	2.2
Other nondurable goods	INA	INA	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	Information Not Available		

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

MASS, MA 20, 39 : Pitt. /981/ 12

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

PITTSFIELD LMA RATE INCREASES

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield LMA has increased dramatically from 6.8 percent in November up to 9.4 percent in December. This reflects the increase in total unemployment. From November to December, overall unemployment increased by 1840 persons from 4730 in November up to 6570 in December. Comparing changes in the DES claims load, the unemployed increased by 414 in continued claims, from 1930 in November up to 2344 in December, and initial claims multiplied by almost five times, from 297 in November up to 1429 in December which is mostly attributable to the General Electric layoffs in this time period. The November to December period of 1980 also saw an increased claims load, which had its effects on the December unemployment rate.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

The best perspective for viewing the Pittsfield LMA's declining economy is over the year figures. Nonagricultural employment went down from 54,700 in December 1980 to 51,900 in December 1981 for a 2,800 worker loss. Most of this loss occurred in the nonmanufacturing sector with 2200 fewer workers, over the year, which was almost evenly split, with a 1200 worker loss occurring in Wholesale and Retail Trade and a 1000 worker loss in Government (all on the state and local level).

The harmful effects on Wholesale and Retail Trade can be seen from several viewpoints. One is the General Electric over the year layoffs of 300 workers, which has a spinoff effect when the highest paying employer in the area reduces its payroll and the affected workers spend less. The second has been the winter tourism (skiing) business, which has sagged up to the present year, to affect related businesses, and, still another is the 1000 worker reduction in state and local government, who although modestly paid, reduce spending in the economy. These causes have induced several places to close due to economic conditions. The manufacturing sector showed a 600 worker decrease over the year which can be see seen in the General Electric employment picture, the softening of the paper industry, the termination of some textile firms and the phasing out of the General Cable Company.

This over the year review shows the falling economy in the Pittsfield LMA and the precent economic situation that needs impetus and a big boost.

The December issue of the Pittsfield LMA Profiles is the last regular issue. Due to severe cuts in federal funds, the Division of Employment Security regretfully announces that it must terminate the following publications: Massachusetts Cities and Towns, Massachusetts Trends, Massachusetts Labor Turnover in Manufacturing, and Massachusetts Profiles for each of the 10 major labor market areas in the state.

The statistical data contained in these publications will be available in the Job Market Research library on the second floor of the Hurley Building, Some of the statistical information contained in these publications will be available during 1982 in a revised Massachusetts Employment Review publication. If you would like to be put on this mailing list, please write to the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security, Job Market Research Publications, Charles F. Hurley Building, Government Center, Boston, MA 02114. Be sure to include your complete address and zip code. The information you provide us will be fed into our new computer program which will enable us to deliver information more efficiently. If you know of others who would like to be on our new mailing list, please have them send us their addresses. If any additional funding becomes available during the year, we will add to our list of publications on a selective basis. Your comments on the value of and uses for the publications you have been receiving would help us to focus our decisions.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
LABOR FORCE	69,840	69,460	71,360
Employment	63,270	64,730	66,890
Unemployment	6,570	4,730	4,470
Unemployment Rate 3/	9.4	6.8	6.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	1,429	297	1,420
Continued Weeks Claimed	2,131	1,720	2,056

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants					
New Applicants (This Month)	I N A				

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	
Unfilled Openings 2/	
Openings Received	INA

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	51.9	52.2	54.7
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34.7	34.8	36.9
Construction	1.2	1.3	1.3
Trans. & public utilities	1.7	1.7	1.7
Wholesale & retail trade	11.3	11.2	12.4
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.3	2.3
Services & mining	10.7	10.6	10.7
Government	7.5	7.7	8.5

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	17.2	17.4	17.8
Durable Goods - Total	--	--	--
Nondurable Goods - Total	--	--	--
Paper & paper products	2.2	2.2	2.2
Other nondurable goods	--	--	--

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	I	N	A

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S. MAIL

job market research

MASS. MA 20.39 : P,H, /982/6

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE INCREASES

The Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA unemployment rate has increased in June 1982 to 9.2 percent from the May figure of 9.0 percent. This marks the third consecutive month that the Pittsfield LMA has a rate over 9.0 percent.

The LMA's labor force increased with new graduates and students from both high school and college entering, and other persons, who work seasonally and outdoors. The labor force in June increased by 1,760 persons to the 69,060 level from the May figure of 67,300.

Most of the 1,760 labor force increase was in employment (1,430) which went to 62,680 in June from 61,250 in May. Summer employment and outside activities, both full and part-time jobs, are evident. Unemployment also rose from 6,050 in May to 6,380 in June.

Perhaps the most revealing analysis of the present economic picture is in the over-the-year data. The labor force has increased very modestly by 740 from 68,320 in June 1981. Employment decreased by 1,320 from the June 1981 figure of 64,000 and unemployment, showing the present economic conditions, is up drastically by 2,060 persons from the 4,320 in June 1981. This means that the unemployed in the labor force as having a difficult time getting jobs, particularly those entering for summer and part-time or temporary work. Another factor to consider is that claims data (Payroll), over-the-month, shows a very slight decline; while over-the-year, there is a substantial increase.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

From the Pittsfield LMA payroll data, the nonagricultural employment figures show a 700 worker increase, over-the-month to reach the 52,800 mark for June 1982. Basically, while manufacturing had a 100 worker increase, it is nonmanufacturing that has led the upward climb with a 600 worker increase attributable solely to the service industry which swells due to the seasonal aspects of the tourist business in the LMA at this time of year.

Over-the-year, the data shows a loss of 1,700 jobs from the 54,500 level of June 1981. Most of this loss, some 1,200 jobs, was in the manufacturing sector which saw General Electric reduce forces by at least 600 workers (300 by layoffs and 300 by attrition). The paper industry has shown a softening of 300 jobs to 90 down to the 2,000 level. The nonelectrical machinery industry (which includes General Electric and Sprague) showed economic effects from the recession. Nonmanufacturing had the other portion of the loss, some 500 jobs, which is clearly reflected in the government sector which lost 600 jobs as state and local governments pared down due to Proposition 2½ and budget adjustments. Another loss was in finance, insurance and real estate with 200 jobs, showing the changing financial picture. The only bright spot was the service industry that showed a 200 job increase and which has a steady pattern of growth.

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

The following municipalities in the Pittsfield LMA have been classified as labor surplus areas as of June 1, 1982: Alford, Florida, New Ashford, North Adams, Savoy and Tyringham. Employers in these areas are eligible for preference in bidding on federal procurement contracts. More information can be obtained from business service centers of the General Services Administration, John W. McCormack Post Office & Court House, Boston, Massachusetts 02109. The purpose of the labor surplus area procurement preference is to help business in areas of severe economic need and high unemployment get a part of the government's funds for procurement. The list of areas eligible remains in effect through May 31, 1983.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	June 1982	May 1982	June 1981
LABOR FORCE	69,060	67,300	68,320
Employment	62,680	61,250	64,000
Unemployment	6,380	6,050	4,320
Unemployment Rate 3/	9.2	9.0	6.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	260	200	152
Continued Weeks Claimed	1,709	1,767	1,318

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	3,366	1,314	599	83	659
New Applicants (This Month)	692	317	78	39	123

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	June 1982
Unfilled Openings 2/	308
Openings Received	361

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	June 1982	May 1982	June 1981
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	52.8	52.1	54.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	35.8	35.2	36.3
Construction	1.5	1.4	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.5	1.5	1.5
Wholesale & retail trade	12.0	12.0	12.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.4	2.5	2.5
Services & mining	11.7	11.1	11.5
Government	6.7	6.7	7.3

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	June 1982	May 1982	June 1981
Manufacturing - Total	17.0	16.9	18.2
Durable Goods - Total			
Nondurable Goods - Total			
Paper & paper products	2.0	2.0	2.3
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	INA
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

MASS. MA. 20.39: P1H./982/8

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE SHOWS AN IMPROVEMENT

Although the unemployment rate for the Pittsfield LMA declined strongly from 10.1 percent in July to 8.2 percent in August, the rate is almost a percentage point higher than the 7.4 percent of August, 1981.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

Nonagricultural employment increased by 300 workers from 52,900 in July to 53,200 in August. Most of this gain (200) was in nonmanufacturing. The Service industry had a 300-worker increase due to the seasonal boost in Tourism which was partially offset by a loss of 100 workers in state and local government. Manufacturing gained 100 workers as factories resumed production after July vacations shut downs.

An over-the-year view of the Pittsfield LMA presents a failing economic picture. Nonfarm employment decreased by 1,800 workers since August 1981. Most of these losses (1,400) were in manufacturing. The two largest manufacturers, General Electric and Sprague Electric pared down their payrolls by layoff and attrition (mostly retirements). Nonmanufacturing also had a loss of 400 workers. The Service Industries, the continuing strength in the LMA, gained 500 workers while Government lost 800 workers on the state and local levels because of Proposition 2½ and lower school-age population.

HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

In the month of August the following High Net Demand Occupations were listed with the Division of Employment Security in the Pittfield LMA: Telephone Solicitor, General Laborer (Machine Shop), and Wood Patternmaker. Although there were skilled applicants registered at the placement office of DES, Job Matching may be difficult for these particular occupations due to specialized skill requirements, commuting problems, or low wages.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS AT GENERAL ELECTRIC

General Electric is going to build a $20 million plant which will be used for the Home Office of the Plastics Division. The center will begin construction in September 1982 and when completed in mid-1984 will initially employ 20 persons.

General Electric will stop producing the plastic called Genal. This will affect 100 workers at the Plastics Division in Pittsfield beginning January, 1983. The loss of 100 persons will be tempered by employees bumping rights.

Another development at General Electric is management decision to spend $3.6 million in its Transformer Division to increase productivity by 25 percent and reduce costs. This move may involve laying off up to 500 out of 3,200 workers.

A further development that could hurt the Transformer Division was the loss of a bid for $350 million contract by the Intermountain Power Agency in Utah. The contract would have employed more than 500 employees in Pittsfield to produce equipment. The status of Power Transformer Industry has been poor since the energy crisis, and has not been helped by recent economic conditions. The Division is being used for some contract work for transformers, but it is mostly for maintenance of transformers. There is a definite threat that this division will be completely phased out, affecting as many as 3,200 workers.

SBA OFFERS DETAILS ON R&D PROGRAM

Small high-technology firms interested in federal funding to develop an idea to meet governmental needs should take advantage of the New Small Business Innovation Research Program now starting up at many federal agencies.

For more information write to:SBIR Program, U.S. Small Business Administration, 1441 "L" Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20416. SBA is coordinating all the SBIR programs. Twice a year, SBA will mail potential applicants a handy master list of all federal R&D solicitations within the SBIR program.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Aug. 1982	July 1982	Aug. 1981
LABOR FORCE	72,540	72,090	71,620
Employment	66,610	64,780	66,340
Unemployment	5,930	7,310	5,280
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.2	10.1	7.4
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	207	260	182
Continued Weeks Claimed	2117	2207	1864

1/ By Place of Residence 2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	2707	1085	502	78	558
New Applicants (This Month)	396	172	49	15	134

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Aug. 1982
Unfilled Openings 2/	197
Openings Received	234

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Aug. 1982	July 1982	Aug. 1981
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.2	52.9	55.0
Nonmanufacturing - Total	36.9	36.7	37.3
Construction	1.6	1.6	1.6
Trans. & public utilities	1.5	1.5	1.5
Wholesale & retail trade	12.6	12.6	12.6
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.4	2.4	2.5
Services & mining	12.5	12.9	12.0
Government	6.3	6.4	7.1

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Aug. 1982	July 1982	Aug. 1981
Manufacturing - Total	16.3	16.2	17.7
Durable Goods - Total			
Nondurable Goods - Total			
Paper & paper products	1.9	1.9	2.3
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Aug.1982	July 1982	Aug. 1981
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	I	N	A

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total empfoyment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at alf, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S. MAIL

job market research

MASS. MA20.39:Pi/7/10

Massachusetts Profiles

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
APR 25 1983
University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE INCREASES

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) has increased over the month from 7.6 percent in September to 8.1 percent in October. The labor force decreased by 970 persons from 69,250 in September to 68,280 in October. While unemployment went up slightly by 260 to the October mark of 5,520 persons, employment fell by 1,230 to the October figure of 62,760 persons. This is because persons are leaving the labor force at the end of the summer tourist season and to a lesser extent because of the recession. Over-the-year, the unemployment rate increased by almost one percentage point, from 7.2 percent last October.

PAYROLL DATA

Nonagricultural employment decreased by 300 jobs from 51,800 in September to 51,500 in October. The manufacturing sector has suffered the major portion of this loss as General Electric and Sprague Electric Companies, in particular, have had furloughs and layoffs as well as made internal adjustments due to the recession. General Electric lost a bid on a transformer project that represents 500 man-hours of work. G.E. has discontinued the production of the Plastic, Genal, which affects 100 workers. Sprague Electric pared down its operations with the relocation of its plastic unit to the southwest. Another company, Schweitzer, has relocated its research department of Kimberly-Clark Division to Georgia affecting 100 workers.

Nonmanufacturing showed a slight loss of 100 workers over the month. The major loss took place in wholesale and retail trade where 500 workers were layed off at the end of the summer tourist season and lower consumer confidence was reflected in lower sales of general goods, construction products and autos. The gains that took place in nonmanufacturing were in contract construction (100), transportation, communications and utilities (100), and government in the state and local level (200).

Over-the-year, nonmanufacturing employment dropped by 900 workers, from the 52,400 mark in October 1981. This 1,400 workers loss in manufacturing dramatically illustrates the economic downturn at General Electric, Sprague Electric and other companies previously mentioned. In the nonmanufacturing sector, the service industry, which had a 400-worker gain continues to be somewhat recession proof because of tourism.

CLAIMS DATA

Payroll claims data shows a gain in initial and continued claims over the month, reflecting recent layoffs and closings. The past four years have revealed a pattern in which November and December claims load have increased by greater amounts. It appears that the trend will continue this year.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Tourism is being advanced and promoted for the LMA. It promises to maintain economic vitality in the Berkshires. This is reflected in wholesale and retail trade, and service industries employment figures, both over the month and over the year. The Berkshire Chamber of Commerce while seeking companies and businesses from all sectors, has taken steps which emphasize tourism.

A new shopping mall is being built in North Adams called Heritage Park which should enhance tourism to the area (particularly to Mt. Greylock which is the highest peak in Massachusetts and attracts 100,000 of visitors). The park will offer plenty of shops with different specialties There are several new lodgings, and one old Inn properly renamed Heritage North Adams Inn. Further south in the Lenox-Pittsfield area, a new shopping center is underway called the Pyramid Mall which will cater to both the tourist and local residents.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Oct. 1982	Sept. 1982	Oct. 1981
LABOR FORCE	68,280	69,250	68,210
Employment	62,760	63,990	63,300
Unemployment	5,520	5,260	4,910
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.1	7.6	7.2
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	255	221	181
Continued Weeks Claimed	1994	1618	1546

1/ By Place of Residence 2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants					
New Applicants (This Month)		I	N	A	

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Oct. 1982
Unfilled Openings 2/	INA
Openings Received	INA

1/ Available During the Month 1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1982	Sept. 1982 R/	Oct. 1981
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	51.5	51.8	52.4
Nonmanufacturing - Total	35.2	35.3	34.7
Construction	1.6	1.5	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.6	1.5	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	11.8	12.3	11.8
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.4	2.4	2.5
Services & mining	11.1	11.1	10.7
Government	6.7	6.5	6.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1982	Sept. 1982 R/	Oct. 1981
Manufacturing - Total	16.3	16.5	17.7
Durable Goods - Total			
Nondurable Goods - Total			
Paper & paper products	1.8	1.9	2.3
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Octo. 1982	Sept. 1982	Oct. 1981
Average Weekly Earnings			
Average Weekly Hours	I	N	A
Average Hourly Earnings			

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

MASS. MA20.39:Pi/7/12

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
APR 25 1983
University of Massachusetts Depository Copy

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

IMPORTANT NOTICE - MAILING LIST UPDATE

Massachusetts Profiles are available for ten major labor markets in Massachusetts: Boston SMSA, Brockton, Fall River, Fitchburg-Leominster, Lawrence-Haverhill, Lowell, New Bedford, Pittsfield, Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke, and Worcester. They are designed for people who want current regional labor market information for public policy or business decisions. If you wish to CONTINUE to receive Massachusetts Profiles after the end of the calendar year, please specify the Region(s) for which you wish to receive copies by writing to:

Publications Staff
Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Job Market Research Publications
C.F. Hurley Building
Government Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

PITTSFIELD LMA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CLIMBS

The unemployment rate for Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) increased from 7.2 percent in November to 8.8 percent in December. This was caused by seasonal layoffs and holiday shutdowns which are reflected in unemployment insurance claims data. December initial claims multiplied by 2½ times since November, and continued claims increased by 1,000. Overall unemployment increased from 4,920 in November to 5,950 in December.

The unemployment rate for Berkshire County (which is the combination of the Pittsfield and Great Barrington Labor Market Areas) rose to 8.5 percent in December from 6.9 percent in November. This again reflects the rise in the number of claims in Berkshire County, which resulted therefore in an overall increase in unemployment from 5,430 in November to 6,650 in December.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

Nonagricultural employment totals increased by 100 workers over the month from 51,300 in November to 51.400 in December. Manufacturing employment showed a small loss of 100 workers while nonmanufacturing increased by 200 workers within the latter subdivision. Wholesale and retail trade and services made modest gains of 200 and 100 respectively, but government had the offsetting loss of 100 workers mainly at the state and local level. The increase in trade and services are due to business gearing up for the ski season.

NEW REPORT AVAILABLE

The Annual Planning Information Report Fiscal Year 1983 for Western Massachusetts is available. The APIR is devised to provide workforce planners with detailed demographic and socio-economic information, anticipated labor market conditions, and information on employment developments by occupations and industry.

BLS NEWS RELEASES NOW ELECTRONICALLY

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has begun an electronic news release service that permits persons interested in the Bureau's national economic indicators to gain access directly from the computer in which they are stored. Information about electronic news releases is available from the Office of Publications, Bureau of Labor Statistic Washington,D.C. 20212. BLS data summary is available 24 hours a day on (202) 523-9658.

The National Institute of Health has $5.6 million available for distribution to small business which provide health products and human services. Some 100 projects for improving existing products and processes or developing new ones are expected to receive support funding at an average of $50,000 each. Applicants must contact the:

Office of Grant Inquiries
Division of Research Grants
Westwood Building - Room 449
National Institutes of Health
Betheseda, Maryland 20205

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Dec. 1982	Nov. 1982	Dec. 1981
LABOR FORCE	67,690	68,040	69,240
Employment	61,740	63,120	62,770
Unemployment	5,950	4,920	6,470
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.8	7.2	9.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	805	352	1429
Continued Weeks Claimed	2912	1994	2131

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	2942	1208	603	82	INA
New Applicants (This Month)	715	292	111	23	INA

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Dec. 1982
Unfilled Openings 2/	241
Openings Received	113

1/ Available During the Month
1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1982	Nov. 1982	Dec. 1981
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	51.4	51.3	52.4
Nonmanufacturing - Total	35.3	35.1	34.9
Construction	1.6	1.6	1.3
Trans. & public utilities	1.5	1.5	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	12.0	11.8	12.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.3	2.4
Services & mining	11.2	11.1	11.0
Government	6.7	6.8	6.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1982	Nov. 1982	Dec. 1981
Manufacturing - Total	16.1	16.2	17.5
Durable Goods - Total			
Nondurable Goods - Total			
Paper & paper products	1.8	1.8	2.2
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	I	N	A

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for Information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

MASS. MA20.39 : Pitts/8/2

COLLECTION
DEC 1983
University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

The nonagricultural employment data for both 1982 and 1981 have been updated to a 1982 benchmark.

Nonagricultural employment declined by 200 workers from 51,200 in January to 51,000 in February. Based on the number of claims filed at local employment offices in the area , construction showed a seasonal decline and paper industry also had softened somewhat. There are no employment figures by industry available yet for 1981, 1982 and 1983 on the new benchmark. Nonagricultural employment was 51,700 in February 1982, to show a 700-worker loss over the year.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DECLINES

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) has declined from 9.2 percent in January to 8.5 percent in February and is reflected by the decline of unemployment insurance claims , both continued and initial. This decline may be due to the expiration of benefit payments by claimants, who may be completely out of the labor force as discouraged workers. The unemployment rate over the year shows a very slight increase from 8.4 percent to 8.5 percent in the present February.

IMPORTANT NOTICE-MAILING LIST UPDATE

Massachusetts Profiles are available for ten major labor markets in Massachusetts: Boston SMSA, Brockton, Fall River, Fitchburg-Leominster, Lawrence-Haverhill, Lowell, New Bedford, Pittsfield, Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke and Worcester. They are designed for people who want current regional labor market information for public policy or business decisions. If you wish to CONTINUE to receive Massachusetts Profiles after the end of the calendar year, please specify the Region(s) for which you wish to receive copies by writing to: Publications Staff, Massachusetts Division of Employment Security, Job Market Research Publications, C.F. Hurley Building, Government Center, Boston, MA 02114.

NEW REPORT AVAILABLE

The Annual Planning Information Report Fiscal Year 1983 for Western Massachusetts is available. The APIR is devised to provide workforce planners with detailed demographic and socio-economic information, anticipated labor market conditions, and information on employment developments by occupations and industry.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Arnold Print Works (APW), despite recent adversities, is still going strong as the result of cooperation between government agencies. Massachusetts Community Development Finance Corp., local banks and the Small Business Administration rescued APW from liquidation to continue on as Arnold Print Works, Inc. and reestablish itself as a textile printing plant employing 200-400 workers.

Another development in the North Adams area is the filing of bankruptcy by the James Hunter Machine Company Inc. under Chapter 11. The company makes textile machinery and employed up to 200 workers. It is now down to the 78-worker level with several more layoffs expected. Kimberly-Clark Corp. has closed down its film plant at Lee that involves 9 hourly employees and 3 salaried employees, but through reassignments, only 5 hourly employees are being layed off.

Now the good news: Mohawk Industries has made a comeback mainly through $7.2 million government contracts over the past year from increasing 22 to 115. A recent contract of $7.5 million for tents for the defense department will further bolster the company which started as a metal shop and wood stove manufacturer. Sprague Elec. has experienced a rise in production orders which has brought back 25 previously laid off workers. Defense contracts and the demand of its product has caused Sprague Electric to invest $750,000 in added productive capacity. Another piece of good news is an emergency Jobs Bill which will provide funds for public prospects. North Adams is eligible for these grants.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Feb. 1983	Jan. 1983	Feb. 1982
LABOR FORCE	66,960	69,140	68,130
Employment	61,250	62,780	62,440
Unemployment	5,710	6,360	5,690
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.5	9.2	8.4
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	513	207	310
Continued Weeks Claimed	2633	2772	2418

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	3132	1266	618	71	NA
New Applicants (This Month)	549	221	74	23	NA

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Feb. 1983
Unfilled Openings 2/	197
Openings Received	172

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Feb. 1983	Jan. 1983	Feb. 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	51.0	51.2	51.7
Nonmanufacturing - Total	NA	NA	NA
Construction			
Trans. & public utilities			
Wholesale & retail trade			
Finance, ins. & real estate			
Services & mining			
Government			

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Feb. 1983	Jan. 1983	Feb. 1982
Manufacturing - Total	NA	NA	NA
Durable Goods - Total			
Nondurable Goods - Total			
Paper & paper products			
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Feb. 1983	Jan. 1983	Feb. 1982
Average Weekly Earnings	NA	NA	NA
Average Weekly Hours			
Average Hourly Earnings			

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Kristin S. Demong, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

MASS. MA20.39: Pitts/8/4

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

COLLECTION
DEC 1983
University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy

PITTSFIELD LMA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) has dropped drastically from 9.2 percent in March to 7.7 percent in April. This follows the state unemployment rate pattern. It is also down from the 8.9 percent of last April.

The three month average for the current months ending in April is 8.5 percent which is down from 9.0 percent for the three months ending in March. Over the year, the three month average for the months ending in April, 1982 was 8.6 percent.

LABOR FORCE DATA

April's employment has increased by 400 persons to reach the 59,240 level. This coupled with unemployment that dropped by 1000 persons to 4980 in April, is an encouraging sign that recovery is possibly underway in the Pittsfield LMA. With the summer months ahead, and the prospects of good weather to help outside activities, this should spur further construction and tourism which is an needed boost to the area's economy.

PAYROLL DATA

Nonagricultural employment increased by 400 workers to reach the 48700 mark in April. The gains were made in the nonmanufacturing sector in construction, and wholesale and retail both of which added 200 workers. This was offset by a loss of 100 workers in service industry. Manufacturing showed a 100-worker gain over the month.

Local office claims data offer supporting evidence of recovery. Claims by totally unemployed workers in the Pittsfield LMA dropped from 2778 in January to 2638 in February, 2579 in March and 2102 in April.

COMPARISON OF THE UNEMPLOYED FROM THE CENSUS AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE DATA

The 1980 Census estimated that 135,310 individuals were unemployed in Massachusetts. Active jobseekers not working who were registered with the Employment Service in March 1980 numbered 114,209 (84.4 percent of the indivduals identified by the Census). Within the Boston SMSA, the 1980 Census estimated the number of unemployed individuals as 61,261. The Employment Service Automated Reporting System (ESARS) recorded 52,002 unemployed individuals registered with the employment service as of March 31, 1980. This represents 84.9 percent of the unemployed individuals within the Boston SMSA enumerated by the census. Within the Balance of Massachusetts, 74,049 individuals were identified by the Census as unemployed. ESARS data indicates that in March 1980, active DES jobseekers not working within the Balance of Massachusetts numbered 62,207.

SUMMER JOBS FOR TEENAGERS

A new program has been established that would give employers substantial tax credits for hiring teenagers this summer. The program is called Targeted Jobs Tax Credit (TJTC). It allows employers who hire economically disadvantaged youth a federal tax credit up to $2,550 of the total salary paid to each teenager.

Qualified person must be 16 or 17 years old, a member of an economically disadvantaged family, work 90 days within May 1 and September period, not have worked for the same employer at any time.

Division of Employment Security (DES) is the certifying agency for the TJTC Program. The DES will determine if youths are eligible prior to starting work.

Employers interested may contact their local DES Job Matching Center or call 1-800-392-6209.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Occupation/Industry section of the DES Research Department published a report entitled Wage and Salary Data For Selected Occupations. The report includes wage data for the Western Region of the state. Copies may be obtained at the Division of Employment Security, Occupation/Industry Dept. C.F. Hurley Bldg. Boston, Mass., 02114

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	April 1983	March 1983	April 1982
LABOR FORCE	64220	64820	68110
Employment	59240	58840	62040
Unemployment	4980	5980	6070
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.7	9.2	8.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	272	184	481
Continued Weeks Claimed	2102	2577	2205

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	2864	1167	528	68	NA
New Applicants ..... (This Month)	694	276	94	20	NA

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	April 1983
Unfilled Openings 2/	231
Openings Received	217

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Non-farm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	April 1983	March 1983	April 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	48.7	48.3	52.0
Nonmanufacturing - Total	33.4	33.1	35.3
Construction	1.4	1.2	1.5
Trans. & public utilities	1.5	1.5	1.4
Wholesale & retail trade	10.3	10.1	11.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.2	2.2	2.3
Services & mining	10.8	10.9	11.3
Government	7.2	7.2	7.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	April 1983	March 1983	April 1982
Manufacturing - Total	15.3	15.2	16.7
Durable Goods - Total			
Nondurable Goods - Total			
Paper & paper products	2.4	2.4	2.6
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	April 1983	March 1983	April 1982
Average Weekly Earnings			
Average Weekly Hours	I	N	A
Average Hourly Earnings			

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Kristin S. Demong, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for Information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-4125

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

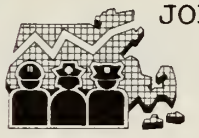
MASS. MA20.39: Pitt/8/D

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
MAY 31 1984
University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DECLINED

The Pittsfield LMA's unemployment rate declined from 8.6 percent in September to 7.8 percent in October. The improvement paralled that in the State and National economies. A year ago, the unemployment rate in Pittsfield was also 7.8 percent in October.

LABOR FORCE EXPANDS

Over the month, the Pittsfield LMA labor force increased by 690 persons from 66,770 in September to 67,460 in October, as a result of a reduction in unemployment by 490 and in increase in employment by 1,160 persons. The October employment level at 62,220 was a return to the level preceding the summer tourist season.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

General Electric's Ordnance Division has been awarded a $500 million contract by the U. S. Navy to design and manufacture a Fire Control System for the new Trident II fleet ballistic missile system. This means that General Electric will hire 200 to 300 persons, mostly in technical jobs during the development stage. Later, General Electric will add production jobs.

Unistress Corp has won 3 major contracts amounting to $8 million and will ad 70 jobs to its present staff of 50. Unistress Corp. manufacturers precast units of concrete for construction projects. Unistress plans to build a $500,000 batching plant to increase its production capacity.

The X-Tyal International Corp. has been awarded a U. S. Army contract of $3.8 million to product 500,000 chemical gas masks. This contract plus a $19.5 million contract in June for 2.4 million gas hoods and a $3.8 million contract in July for 500,000 hoods. adds up to a total of $27.1 million and has resulted in 40 new jobs in the North Adams plant.

RECENT DES PUBLICATION

The Research Department of the Division of Employment Security has printed The Labor Market Information for Affirmative Action Programs - 1983 - Pittsfield SMSA. The information contained in this publication is provided to assist employers who are attempting to meet Affirmative Action obligations. Please note, the definition for Pittsfield SMSA is different from Pittsfield LMA.

Another report ready for distribution is 80 Job Opportunities for the 80's . It is an updated and expanded version of the publication High Demand Occupations for Massachusetts 1981. The information in this report is designed to meet the needs of both individuals who are currently seeking work, planning a career, or considering a career change and persons providing guidance in those matters. The 80 occupations included in this report are expected to provide 70 percent of all new jobs between 1980 and 1990.

A third publication, Occupations in Trade, Transportation, Communications and Utilities - 1982 presents the staffing patterns of two divisions of nonmanufacturing industries and the changes that have occurred since 1979. It is designed to meet the needs of economists, employment specialists, educators and counselors.

Another publication, and in many ways the most important one for those interested in the whole specturm of Labor Market Information Products is the Job Market Research Products and Services. The report describes the major programs of the Division of Employment Security and publications resulting from such programs.

For free copies of these reports please write to:

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Job Market Research Publications
C. F. Hurley Building
Government Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Oct. 1983	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982
LABOR FORCE	67,460	66,770	70,250
Employment	66,220	61,040	64,760
Unemployment	5,240	5,730	5,490
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.8	8.6	7.8
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	155	174	221
Continued Weeks Claimed	1216	1190	1994

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants					
New Applicants (This Month)	I N A				

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Oct. 1983
Unfilled Openings 2/	
Openings Received	INA

1/ Available During the Month

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1983	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	50,300	49,900	50,800
Nonmanufacturing - Total	34,900	34,600	35,100
Construction	1,500	1,500	1,800
Trans. & public utilities	1,700	1,600	1,600
Wholesale & retail trade	10,400	10,900	11,100
Finance, ins. & real estate	2,200	2,200	2,300
Services & mining	11,100	11,000	11,500
Government	8,000	7,400	6,800

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1983	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982
Manufacturing - Total	15,400	15,300	15,700
Durable Goods - Total	10,400	10,400	10,700
Nondurable Goods - Total	5,000	4,900	5,000
Paper & paper products	INA	INA	INA
Other nondurable goods	INA	INA	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Oct.1983	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982
Average Weekly Earnings			
Average Weekly Hours	I	N	A
Average Hourly Earnings			

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Michael S. Dukakis, Governor
Evelyn F. Murphy, Secretary
Economic Affairs
Kristin S. Demong, Director DES
Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for Information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

MASS. MA 20.39: Pitt./8/12

Massachusetts Profiles

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
MAY 31 1984
University of Massachusetts Depository Copy

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

PITTSFIELD LMA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE RISES

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) increased from 8.4 percent in November to 8.9 percent in December.

Total employment over the month dropped slightly by 170 persons, going from 63,830 in November to 63,660 in December. Unemployment showed a substantial increase over the month going from 5,830 in November to 6,190 in December, for a 360 gain in unemployment.

Over the year the unemployment rate rose from 8.5 percent in December, 1982 to 8.5 percent in December 1983.

While employment over the year, dropped by slightly 200 persons from the 63,860 level in December, 1982, unemployment increased by 230 persons from the 5,960 mark of last December.

PAYROLL DATA

Nonagricultural employment showed a 400 job gain from 50,900 in November to 51,300 in December. This increase was lead by wholesale and retail trade employment which expanded by 200 workers due to seasonal holiday sales. Services employment grew by 300 workers because of increased outdoor activities.

Offsetting this employment recovery is insured claims which rose significantly with total continued claims rising from 2,557 claimants in November to 2,924 claimants in December. In addition, initial claims showed a drastic increase from 230 claimants in November to 1,037 claimants in December, almost a multiplier of 5 is due to layoffs and holiday shutdowns in plants especially at the General Electric's transformer department.

LABOR SURPLUS AREA STATUS

At present only town of Savoy is eligible as labor surplus area in Berkshire County for the period from October 1, 1983 through September 30, 1984.

As of January 24, 1984, a third petition was sent to the U. S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration for the city of North Adams to be operated as a labor surplus area under the exceptional circumstances criteria. There have been multiple plant closings; a loss of a major contract, a catastrophic plant fire, and a unemployment rate over 10 percent for the last 4 months for North Adams (11.2 percent in September, 10.3 percent in October, 11.0 percent in November and 11.6 percent in December). Furthermore, it is projected that the city of North Adams will remain above the national average as it has been in the past.

In North Adams, there are 8 Federal Government contractors whose combined work forces was 2,038 workers. In the first quarter of 1983, therefore, the designation of labor surplus area is essential in maintaining employment levels.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Brodie Mountain Ski area will expand facilities over the next three years with 6 new condominums, 20 motel units and up to 7 or 8 new ski trails. This construction add up to over $1 million and will provide new job opportunities.

Other prospects, based on contingencies, are the continued operation of General Cable Co. plant in Williamstown "if" the facility can be sold. Its sale is now in the process of negotiations. Another future prospects is the reopening of North Adams Inn in February, 1984 "if" the new corporation Universal Hotels, Inc. takes over, and past taxes have been paid to the city. A setback to the area is the filing by Mohawk Industries under Chapter 11 reorganization, which was due to company's severe cash flow problems after a catastrophic fire. Two other companies have fought to come back through Chapter 11 proceedings, Arnold Print Work Inc.,North Adams Print Works and James Hunter Company.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Dec. 1983	Nov. 1983	Dec. 1982
LABOR FORCE	69550	69660	69820
Employment	63660	63830	63860
Unemployment	6190	5830	5960
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.9	8.4	8.5
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	1037	230	805
Continued Weeks Claimed	2022	2091	2912

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	2215	409	472	90	NA
New Applicants (This Month)	416	155	68	26	NA

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Dec. 1983
Openings Received	313

1/ Available During the Month
1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1983	Nov. 1983	Dec. 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	51.3	50.9	51.0
Nonmanufacturing - Total	35.8	35.4	35.5
Construction	1.4	1.5	1.6
Trans. & public utilities	1.7	1.7	1.6
Wholesale & retail trade	11.1	10.9	11.3
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.2	2.2	2.2
Services & mining	11.3	11.0	11.8
Government	8.1	8.1	7.0

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1983	Nov. 1983	Dec. 1982
Manufacturing - Total	15.5	15.5	15.5
Durable Goods - Total	10.5	10.4	10.6
Nondurable Goods - Total	5.0	5.0	4.9
Paper & paper products			
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	I	N	A

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksourg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru; Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Michael S. Dukakis, Governor
Evelyn F. Murphy, Secretary
Economic Affairs
Kristin S. Demong, Director
Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

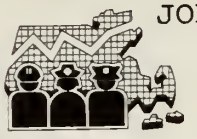
MASS. MA20.39: 1/2

Massachusetts Profiles

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT COLLECTION
JUN 6 1984
University of Massachusetts Depository Copy

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



PITTSFIELD LMA'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPS SHARPLY

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield LMA had dropped sharply from 8.9 percent in January to 8.0 percent in February. The same sharp decline of .9 of a percentage point occurs in an over the year comparison. The number of unemployed persons declined by 690 over the month to 5,330 in February. A year ago in February 5,730 persons were jobless.

February employment declined slightly by 210 persons over the month to 61,540. However, employment has grown by 2,050 over the year and indicates how well the economy has rebounded from the recessionary lows of the past two years.

NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

Payroll data showed a slight decline of 200 workers from 51,000 in January to 50,800 in February with both the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors recording 100 worker losses.

Over-the-year nonfarm employment was 900 workers above the 49,900 level of last February. All of the increase occurred within the nonmanufacturing sector. A significant rise of 600 workers in wholesale and retail trade and smaller gains of 200 in both construction and services accounted for the entire increase.

MIFA LOANS

Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency has issued bonds of $36,866,000 to 22 Western Massachusetts companies which will result in investments in plant and equipment. The expansions are expected to result in 652 new jobs. Pittsfield and North Adams have 6 companies that will receive $2,100,000 of this total and will result in the creation of 285 new jobs.

The following is a list of Western Massachusetts firms receiving MIFA loans.

Company	Location	Bond Amount	New Jobs
Hoover Universal Inc.	E. Longmeadow	$ 2,000,000	10
North Adams Associates	N. Adams	4,300,000	150
American Pad & Paper	Holyoke	650,000	2
Ware Foundry Inc.	Ware	250,000	27
Ludlow Corp.	Ware	2,600,000	15
Lundy Mushrooms Inc.	N. Adams	995,000	70
Rotman Rug Co.	Springfield	1,086,000	20
Zaks Associates	Holyoke	300,000	50
Bridgeport National Bindery Inc.	Agawam	500,000	20
Gillespie Corp.	Ware	300,000	10
Frank's Berkshire Marine Inc.	Pittsfield	180,000	4
Holyoke Water Power	Holyoke	15,000,000	78
Bonnie's Cycle Sales	Pittsfield	110,000	5
Tec Tool Grinding & Supply Inc.	Pittsfield	1,400,000	15

Company	Location	Bond Amount	New Jobs
Abdow Corp.	Springfield	$1,400,000	15
Morrison Berkshire Inc.	N. Adams	1,325,000	50
Quabbin Wire & Cable	Ware	750,000	12
Dielectrics Industries	Chicopee	750,000	25
KKH Rolls Inc.	Orange	720,000	3
Brimfield Precision Inc.	Brimfield	300,000	15
Schoolhouse Associates of Westfield	Westfield	1,500,000	35
S & S Distributing Co.	Chicopee	1,700,000	30

NEW REPORT AVAILABLE

The Mass. Division of Employment Security (DES) has announced the release of a new publication entitled Distribution of Establishments and Employment by Size Groups. The publication, based on first quarter contribution reportfrom the 99 percent of Massachusetts employers who are covered by the Mass. Employment Security Law, is the most accurate measure of employment by industry and size of employer. The report is produced annually and places all covered employers in one of nine size categories by two-digit Standard Industrial Classification Codes. These categories range from (size class 1) employers with less than 4 employees to (size class 9) or those employers with over 1,000 employees.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR Feb. 1984	Jan. 1984	Feb. 1983
LABOR FORCE	66,870	67,770	64,220
Employment	61,540	61,750	58,490
Unemployment	5,330	6,020	5,730
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.0	8.9	8.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	325	240	207
Continued Weeks Claimed	2054	1957	2638

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	2245	790	487	78	IDA
New Applicants (This Month)	652	289	80	26	IDA

JOB OPENINGS 1/	
Openings Received	369

1/ Available During the Month

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Feb. 1984	Jan. 1984	Feb. 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	50.8	51.0	49.9
Nonmanufacturing - Total	35.3	35.4	34.4
Construction	1.4	1.5	1.2
Trans. & public utilities	1.3	1.3	1.3
Wholesale & retail trade	11.6	11.8	11.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.2	2.2	2.3
Services & mining	12.0	12.0	11.8
Government	6.8	6.7	6.8

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Feb. 1984	Jan. 1984	Feb. 1983
Manufacturing - Total	15.5	15.6	15.5
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Nondurable Goods - Total			
Paper & paper products	INA	INA	INA
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Feb. 1984	Jan. 1984	Feb. 1983
Average Weekly Earnings			
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings			

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Michael S. Dukakis, Governor
Evelyn F. Murphy, Secretary
Economic Affairs
Kristin S. Demong, Director DES
Marlene Seltzer, Director of Research and Policy
Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

Labor Area Research Department
Mass. Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

MASS. MA 20.39: Pitt./984/4

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
SEP 28 1984
University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy

assachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DECLINES TO 6.7 PERCENT

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) dropped dramatically from 7.8 percent in March to 6.7 percent in April. Compared to a year ago's rate of 8.0 percent in April, 1983, this is a notable decline.

Employment in the Pittsfield LMA has increased by 1,160 persons to 62,840 in April from March's figure of 61,680. The considerable increase of 2,990 persons employed over last April's figure of 58,850 demonstrates the extent of economic improvement.

Unemployment has had a continuing downward trend over the last 5 months. The number unemployed dropped by 650 persons from 5,190 in March to 4,540 in April. In Berkshire County, which includes both the Pittsfield LMA and Great Barrington LMA, the unemployrate has fallen from 7.3 percent in March to 6.3 percent in April. This is the fifth consecutive month that the unemployment rate has dropped. The rate has dropped from a high of 8.5 percent in December 1983. The 5 month averaged unemployment rate was 7.6 percent. It is notable that unemployment has ebated 35 percent from 6,780 in December, 1983 to 5,005 in April.

The unemployment situation in the Great Barrington LMA has improved considerably. The unemployment rate dropped 0.9 percentage points in April from the March, 1984 rate of 4.9 percent. The rate fell from 6.2 percent in December 1983 to 4.0 percent in April 1984. The decline in unemployment Berkshire County, the Pittsfield LMA, and the Great Barrington LMA masks a troublesome picture for the most northern municipalities.

Adams, Clarksburg, Florida, New Ashford, North Adams, Savoy, and Williamstown felt the effects of the recent recession. Their combined April unemployment rate of 7.0 percent is 0.3 percentage points higher than the Pittsfield LMA, 0.7 percentage points higher than the Great Barrington LMA, and 2.0 percentage points higher that the state seasonally unadjusted rate of 5.0 percent. During the period of December 1983 through April 1984, their unemployment rate averaged 8.3 percent which was 2.2 percentage points higher than the state averaged unemployment rate. During this five month period, the city of North Adams averaged a 10.6 percent rate and Savoy 13.7 percent. While intensive economic development efforts are occurring in North Adams and in Adams, unemployment remains a critical concern of these communities.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT INCREASES BY 1,200 IN PITTSFIELD LMA

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment showed an increase of 800 workers going from 50,800 in March to 51,600 in April. Most of the gain is in the wholesale and retail sector which rose from 11,800 workers in March up to 12,300 workers in April. Also showing improvements is the construction industry which leaped 14.3 percent from 1,400 workers in March to 1,600 workers in April. Both of these industry divisions exceed their April 1983 employment.

Nonagricultural employment increased by 1,200 workers or 2.4 percent from 50,400 workers in April 1983 to 51,600 in April, 1984. Growth was led by wholesale and retail trade with an increase of 700 workers followed by construction, and manufacturing both with an increase of 300 workers.

SERVICES EMPLOYMENT LEADS RECOVERY IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY

A comparison of private sector employment within Berkshire County in the third quarter of 1983 with the the third quarter of 1981 indicates an increase of 0.1 percent to 52,007 workers. Since the third quarter 1982 when private sector employment plunged to 50,040, employment has increased 1,067 jobs or 2.1 percent. The services industry was responsible for the increase in private sector employment. The 1,889 new jobs in the services sector offset the loss of 1,856 jobs in the manufacturing sector between the third quarter of 1981 and the third quarter of 1983. The 13.9 percent increase in services employment edged the division up to 15,476 workers in 1983 from 13,582 in 1981. It now ranks second to manufacturing which employs 16,416 down from 18,272 in 1981.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	April 1984	Mar. 1984	April 1983
LABOR FORCE	67,380	66,870	63,950
Employment	62,840	61,680	58,850
Unemployment	4,540	5,190	5,100
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.7	7.8	8.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	338	171	272
Continued Weeks Claimed	1831	2075	2205

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	2593	991	524	93	643
New Applicants (This Month)	767	340	80	26	785

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	April 1984
Openings Received	221

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) April 1984	Mar. 1984	April 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	51.6	50.8	50.4
Nonmanufacturing - Total			
Construction	1.6	1.4	1.3
Trans. & Public utilities	1.2	1.3	1.4
Wholesale & retail trade	12.3	1.7	11.6
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.2	2.3
Services & mining	11.6	11.8	11.6
Government	6.9	6.8	6.8

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) April 1984	Mar. 1984	April 1983
Manufacturing - Total	15.7	15.6	15.4
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Nondurable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA
Paper & paper products	INA	INA	INA
Other nondurable goods	INA	INA	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	April 1984	Mar. 1984	April 1983
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Alweys Preliminery R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (totel employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the lebor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS - These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Research and Policy Department in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U. S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Michael S. Dukakis, Governor
Evelyn F. Murphy Secretary, Economic Affairs
Kristin S. Demong, Director DES
Merlene Seltzer, Director of Research and Policy
Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Request for information or copies should be addressed to:
Research and Policy Department
Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-6542

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research

MASS. MA20.39:Pitt/984/6

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
SEP 28 1984
University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE EDGES UP SEASONALLY

The unemployment rate for the Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) has increased slightly over the month from 4.8 percent in May to 5.0 percent in June. In doing so it followed the state unadjusted rate which increased from 4.0 percent in May to 4.5 percent in June.

Unemployment went up by only 200 persons from 3,230 in May to 3,430 in June. This is attributable to new entrants and re-entrants in and withdrawals from the labor force. Both graduates and students are seeking work for the first time; while simultaneously single parents and mothers leave the work force at the end of the school year to care for and be with their families.

Employment continued to rise with a monthly increase of 1,860 persons, from 63,460 in May to 65,320 in June. This is the fifth consecutive monthly increase since February, 1984.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT UP

Improved weather for outdoor construction, tourism and cultural events are underway with the result of increased employment in nonmanufacturing which was led by services, wholesale and retail trade, and construction industries. Services showed a 700 worker gain, over-the-month, as lodgings and other services increased to meet customer needs. Wholesale and retail trades also gained 400 workers over-the-month as eating and drinking places and other retail outlets opened up and distributors increased supplies for them. Construction had a gain of 200 workers over-the-month as new construction and remodeling projects developed.

Manufacturing also showed improvement with an increase of 200 jobs which took place in machinery which grew by 200 jobs. Growth in durable goods manufacturing highlights an improved economy.

GENERAL ELECTRIC PLANS FOR BRIGHT FUTURE

A new plastic's building was dedicated by General Electric. The building which cost $25 million is to be used mainly as a world-wide headquarters and research facility. This General Electric building combined with the state's $6 million appropriation to beef up the Polymer Science department of the nearby University of Massachusetts will boost the area's competitiveness in the plastic's business. Cooperative efforts by private and public sectors should promote industry development and local employment opportunities.

Another boost and assistance to the Pittsfield community is General Electric's decision to fix the ailing large transformer operation instead of closing or selling the department. This is good news but it is tempered by the prospects of reduced future employment, particularly mangement positions, and reduced floor space. The present employment of the transformer department is 2,400 workers.

REEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE OFFERED TO ADAMS PRINT WORKERS

Adams Print Works losing money at a rate of $100,000 a month ceased operations on July 3 after a year-and-a-half struggle. The result is an employment loss of 120 employees. The state has responded through the Office of Economic Affairs to establish a Worker Assistance Center and programs offering reemployment assistance benefits and retraining.

COMMUTING PATTERNS IN NORTHERN BERKSHIRES

The 1980 Census Journey to Work Data indicated that the residents of the 7 northernmost municipalities in the Berkshire County commuted to 3 principal worksites: North Adams, Williamstown, and Adams. Seventy-seven percent of the workers who lived within Adams, Clarksburg, Florida, New Ashford, North Adams, Savoy, and Williamstown worked within those communities. Of the 16,913 workers, 40.7% worked in North Adams, 20% in Williamstown and 15.1% in Adams. Less than one percent worked in each of the remaining towns, 11% commuted to Pittsfield and 4% traveled to Vermont, A little over one percent worked in Dalton.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	June 1984	May 1984	June 1983
LABOR FORCE	68,750	66,690	65,860
Employment	65,320	63,460	60,430
Unemployment	3,430	3,230	5,430
Unemployment Rate 3/	5.0	4.8	8.2
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	120	143	206
Continued Weeks Claimed	1024	1243	1455

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	2615	1024	511	99	691
New Applicants ..... (This Month)	738	343	76	27	162

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1	June 1984
Openings Received	435

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT ('000's)		
	June 1984	May 1984	June 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.9	52.5	52.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	47.8	46.6	46.9
Construction	2.0	1.8	1.7
Trans. & Public utilities	1.3	1.3	1.4
Wholesale & retail trade	13.0	12.6	12.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.3	2.3	2.4
Services & mining	12.4	11.7	12.2
Government	6.8	6.9	6.9

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT ('000's)		
	June 1984	May 1984	June 1983
Manufacturing - Total	161	159	156
Durable Goods - Total	NA	NA	NA
Nondurable Goods - Total	NA	NA	NA
Paper & paper products			
Other nondurable goods			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	June 1984	May 1984	June 1983
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	NA	NA	NA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS - These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Research and Policy Department in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U. S. Department of Labor

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Michael S. Dukakis, Governor
Evelyn F. Murphy Secretary, Economic Affairs
Kristin S. Demong, Director DES
Marlene Seltzer, Director of Research and Policy
Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Request for information or copies should be addressed to:
Research and Policy Department
Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-6542

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

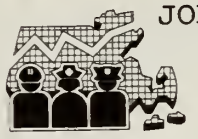
U.S.MAIL

MASS. MA20.39: Pitt./984/8

Massachusetts Profiles

Pittsfield LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



UNEMPLOYMENT EDGES UP

Even though employment in the Pittsfield Labor Market Area (LMA) increased by 160 persons from 65,530 in July to 65,690 in August, the unemployment rate in the area also increased to 5.9 percent from 5.3 percent over the month because of an increase in the number of unemployed persons from 3,650 to 4,140. The rise in the estimate was corroborated by an increase in initial claims for unemployment insurance filed at local employment offices. Many of these claims were registered by former employees of the Adams Print Mill which shut down in July displacing some 170 persons.

The unemployment rate in the Pittsfield LMA is expected to rise further in September because of the closings of Berkshire Tanning Co., Vermont Hardwood and Mohawk Industries in the North Adams area. These closings will displace approximately 345 persons. In addition the North Adams community is concerned about rumored layoffs by Sprague Electric.

Despite the gloomy outlook, the data indicate an improvement over the year. In August 1983, the Pittsfield LMA unemployment rate was 6.6 percent compared to the current 5.9 percent and the number of continued claims dropped from 1,412 in August 1983 to 1,294 in August 1984.

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS ANNOUNCED

Florida, Hancock, North Adams and Savoy in the Pittsfield LMA have been certified as labor surplus areas. Companies within these municipalities are eligible for federal procurement preference for the period from October 1, 1984 through September 30, 1985. This eligibility will help North Adams in particular because it is experiencing plant closings and large layoffs.

NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS INCREASE DUE TO MANUFACTURING

Nonagricultural employment increased by 400 jobs over the month, from 53,200 in July to 53,600 in August. The gain occurred in manufacturing's durable goods sector. Although nonmanufacturing employment remained constant at 37,600 workers over the month, there were gains of 100 in both transportation, communications and utilities and in wholesale and retail sales. These job gains were offset by job losses of 100 in both services and government. An improved economic and employment picture is shown over the year with a 1,200-worker gain from last August's employment level of 52,400. There were gains of 300 workers in manufacturing and 900 in nonmanufacturing. A gain of 700 jobs in wholesale and retail trade reflected both improved consumer earnings and purchasing power and an increase in tourism.

INSURED EMPLOYMENT REFLECTS RECOVERY

Pittsfield LMA's insured employment for first quarter 1984, showed a large gain of 2,159 workers from 48,351 workers in the first quarter of 1983 to 50,510 workers. There was improvement in all industries. The manufacturing sector gained 659 workers, and the nonmanufacturing sector gained 1,500. Wholesale and retail trade gained 835 workers or 56 percent of the nonmanufacturing gain, while the services gained 391 workers or 26.1 percent of the gain. The employment growth in these two industries reflects an important trend in the Berkshires. Tourism and winter sports as well as the improved economic health of state and national economies contributed to the overall growth.

NEW RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

New Industry and Occupational Analysis publications are now available for each of the 15 Service Delivery Areas (SDA) which include the Berkshire County SDA. These reports review recent employment and unemployment developments as well as highlight growth industries and occupations that are likely to provide good future job opportunities in the SDA. Any of these reports may be received free of charge by writing to: Massachusetts Division of Employment Security, Research Publications; Labor Area Research Department; 2nd floor; Charles F. Hurley Building; Government Center, Boston, MA 02114.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Aug. 1984	July 1984	Aug. 1983
LABOR FORCE	69,830	69,180	69,680
Employment	65,690	65,530	65,070
Unemployment	4,140	3,650	4,610
Unemployment Rate 3/	5.9	5.3	6.6
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	258	250	220
Continued Weeks Claimed	1294	1376	1412

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	1395	528	317	49	369
New Applicants (This Month)	594	243	66	30	149

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Aug. 1984
Openings Received	393

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Aug. 1984	July 1984	Aug. 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	53.6	53.2	52.4
Nonmanufacturing - Total	37.6	37.6	36.7
Construction	2.1	2.1	1.9
Trans & Public utilities	1.1	1.0	1.0
Wholesale & retail trade	13.1	13.0	12.4
Finance, ins. & real estate	2.4	2.4	2.4
Services & mining	12.8	12.9	13.0
Government	6.0	6.1	5.9

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Aug. 1984	July 1984	Aug. 1983
Manufacturing - Total	16.0	15.6	15.7
Durable Goods - Total	INA	INA	INA

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Aug. 1984	July 1984	Aug. 1983
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	I	N	A

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of **jobs** in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS - These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, Lee, Lenox, New Ashford, North Adams, Otis, Peru, Pittsfield, Richmond, Savoy, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, Windsor.

PITTSFIELD LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Research and Policy Department in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U. S. Department of Labor

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Michael S. Dukakis, Governor
Evelyn F. Murphy Secretary, Economic Affairs
Kristin S. Demong, Director DES
Marlene Seltzer, Director of Research and Policy
Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Request for information or copies should be addressed to:
Research and Policy Department
Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
C. F. Hurley Building - Government Center
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 727-6542

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MA. 02114

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S.MAIL

job market research